



**JEFFREY G. OLSON, D.D.S.**  
Clock Tower Plaza - Suite 211B  
2525 West Main St.  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
605/342-2445

January 25, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
601 D Street N.W., Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Trial Attorney Hesse:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input on the settlement reached recently in U.S. v. Microsoft. I am very pleased that this antitrust case has settled after the years and millions invested in pursuing every relevant issue involved.

I realize that it has been a complicated case which has caused the courts to enter unfamiliar territory in determining the appropriateness of Microsoft Corporation's practices as they affect its equally ambitious competitors. However, I have been concerned that this case would also act to stifle the dynamic ability of Microsoft - or any other software firm - to create and successfully market the best software which meets the needs of consumers. Placing our government in charge of micromanaging innovation would certainly limit the ability of American software companies to keep our nation ahead in technology development.

For my dental practice and home use, I have relied on Microsoft to provide a competent and versatile system to conduct business and communicate with friends and family. I hope this settlement will allow Microsoft to divert its resources into continuing to make its clients satisfied with its new products.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeff Olson

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